



NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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09-002

ANCHORAGE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO DRUG DISTRIBUTION

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Nelson P. Cohen announced today, January 9, 2009, that Orlando Gerrard Holder, a resident of Anchorage, Alaska, pleaded guilty in federal court in Anchorage to two counts of distribution of controlled substances.

The 23 year-old Holder pleaded guilty to a two count indictment involving the distribution of cocaine base, or “crack,” before Chief United States District Court Judge John W. Sedwick.

In connection with the guilty plea, Special Assistant United States Attorney Erin White advised the court that on two separate occasions in 2008, the defendant sold crack cocaine to a government informant. The total amount of crack cocaine distributed by the defendant was 12.1 grams.

Judge Sedwick scheduled sentencing for April 7, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. The law provides for a maximum total sentence of 5 to 40 years in prison, a fine of \$2 million, or both. Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the actual sentence imposed is based upon the seriousness of the offense and the criminal history, if any, of the defendant.

The court ordered Holder to remain in custody pending sentencing.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation Safe Streets Task Force, comprised of Anchorage police officers and FBI agents, conducted the investigation leading to the convictions in this case. SAUSA White is one of two prosecutors in the U.S. Attorney’s Office who are funded by the Municipality of Anchorage for the purpose of prosecuting gang-related and violent crime cases.

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